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COUNTRY Spain

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SUBJECT Statements of Dr. Gregorio MARAÑON

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1. Dr. Gregorio MARAÑON, leading Spanish intellectual, who visited France in mid-August 1948, told source that he expected the Spanish exiles to play a significant part in Spain's future regime. He pointed out that they had acquired a knowledge of world affairs denied to those inside Spain under the severe restrictions of the FRANCO regime. Stating that seventy per cent of the Spanish public, including virtually all of the sincere well-educated population, favored a return to liberal government, he warned that the prestige of the exiles would be greatly diminished if a spirit of revenge dominated them.
2. When asked if by a liberal government he meant the Monarchy, MARAÑON replied that many liberals favored the Monarchy because they believed that it had the best chance of getting the support of the Army. He expected, however, that the Monarchists, with little real strength, would have to yield to pressure for a more progressive form of government when after a few months of freedom of the press and of propaganda the popular will began to assert itself. Stating that many persons were fearful of such a popular reaction, MARAÑON said that he was not, for his observations of exile leaders gave him confidence in their temperate judgment.
3. The Army, not the Church or the wealthy class, MARAÑON said, presents the chief obstacle to change. He believed, however, that FRANCO's ability to corrupt the military men with special privileges had a limit and that the hostility of outside opinion and the growing discontent inside the country eventually would convince the Army leaders that a change was necessary. He felt that the Monarchist-Socialist conversations would have profound influence on Army opinion. The mere fact that such conversations were being held signified great progress to him.
4. Without committing himself on the question of legitimacy of republican claims, MARAÑON said that he considered it wise to preserve the organized exile groups.
5. Opinion in intellectual circles in Spain, specifically in the Academia Española, of which he is a member, was hostile to the regime, according to MARAÑON. He claimed that the Bishop of Madrid-Alcala, Leopoldo EIJÓ y Garay, was the only member of the Academy in sympathy with the FRANCO

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regime. While criticizing the attitude of various members of the clergy, MARANON said that he believed that a pronounced evolution was taking place in their thought. He dismissed Cardinal SEGURA of Seville as of no great importance, but attached great significance to the frankly anti-FRANCO attitude of Marcelino OLABACHEA, Archbishop of Valencia. He described Enrique PLA y Deniel, the Primate of Spain, as a "man without character," perhaps because of his advanced age.

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